

(Natural History), but a search by Mr. R. I. Vane-Wright failed to find this specimen.

I would be interested to hear through these columns of any other occurrences of *tamarindi* (or any other brassolinid) in Britain. Howarth (1973) has no record of *tamarindi* either in, or brought to, the British Museum (Natural History) (as part of a generic revision of *Opsiphanes* I have been through all the neotropical collections in the BMNH and there are no British specimens). Dr. I. D. Wallace of Merseyside County Museum, and Mr. J. Deeming of the National Museum of Wales, searched their respective drawers of imported 'exotics', but no *Opsiphanes* were found. Finally Messrs. J. Heath and P. R. Syemour kindly searched the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food records of 'intercepts' up to 1984, again to no avail.

References

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THE EARLY INSTARS OF THE LARVA OF EUPROCTIS SIMILIS (FUESSLY) (LEP.: LYMANTRIIDAE). — On the 4th of September, 1985, when in Tunstall Forest, east Suffolk, I found on an alder leaf a number of larvae newly hatched from a batch of ova covered with hairs from the anal tuft of the female. These eventually turned out to be a *E. similis*, but neither I nor my companions recognised them. In the first two instars the ground colour was dark purplish brown, the dorsal stripe deep orange-yellow and the other markings paler yellow; white was entirely absent. The second instar was similar. Only in the third instar did the familiar scarlet, black and white pattern appear.

Was this an aberrant batch of larvae or is this the normal, but apparently unrecorded, coloration of the young larva? — A. M. EMMET, Labrey Cottage, Victoria Gardens, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB11 3AF.